

square p-value = 0.037). A similar relationship existed between occupancy rates and providing presenters for classroom or community events. Again, the relatively small number of hospitals that do not supply classroom presenters tended to have the highest occupancy rates (chi-square p-value = 0.001).

Two-thirds of NC hospitals said that they sponsor some type of volunteer program for middle school and high school students, but small hospitals (measured both in terms of beds and RN staff size) were less likely to have such programs than larger hospitals (chi-square p-value = 0.001 for staff size and 0.005 for bed size).

Table 14. Percent of Hospitals Engaged in Community Activities that Influence Young People to Choose Health Careers

<i>Percent</i>	<i>Activity</i>
80.0	Offer clinical sites for high school health occupation classes
77.0	Provide presenters for classrooms or community events
75.0	Sponsor volunteer programs for middle or high school students
73.0	Provide job shadow experiences for local students
57.0	Grant scholarships to nursing students
43.0	Participate in health screenings in local schools
35.0	Host a Career Day or Career Fair for students
28.0	Provide a student mentoring program
17.0	Send out newsletters / brochures to local schools
4.0	Participate in none of these community activities

Summary and Conclusions

Between the Summer of 1999 and the Summer of 2000, the demand for registered nurses (RNs) increased in North Carolina, as did the demand for unlicensed assistive personnel (UAPs). The level of demand for LPNs did not change appreciably. Hospital responses to the survey sent out in the Summer of 2000 indicated that the demand for RNs and UAPs was expected to continue to increase through the Summer of 2002, and that the demand for LPNs might increase slightly. Much of the increase expected in RN positions appears to be the result of an increase in demand for RNs with specialized skills such as case managers, telephone triage nurses, Nurse Practitioners, and